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Via ECFS
Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

**Re: In the Matter of Petition of USTelecom for Forbearance Pursuant to
47 U.S.C. Section 160(c); WC Docket No. 18-141; Category 1**

Dear FCC,

I am opposed to any actions on behalf of the FCC to limit the ability of the small, independent carriers to utilize UNEs owned by the larger telecommunications companies such as AT&T. The US Telecom Association is not about improving service but in maintaining their monopolistic control of resources and stifling the competition of the independent carriers.

I see this in my own situation. As a rural Internet user I am realistically restricted to the local franchise holder, Frontier. When an independent went to the California PUC, Frontier fought to limit the number of homes that the independent could service. Frontier is NEVER going to build out with fiber optic. They would rather hurt the customer then allow an independent a toehold.

I am not your average Internet user. I started in computers in a small office in the Marine Corps, Information Systems Design Section in Headquarters Fleet Marine Force Pacific (a companion office was located at Fleet Marine Force Atlantic), dedicated to moving the Corps to a fuller use of computers way back in 1965. I have used in my personal life everything from 300 baud acoustic modem, the full range of dial-up modems, ISDN and finally ADSL at home. As the webmaster for the City of Long Beach, California I was responsible for both the Internet offering to not only 450,000 residents but to businesses and tourists as well as the city intranet. Moving from T-1 lines to FO was an eye opener. Going back to DSL at home when I retired was another eye opener of a different sort.

Now that I have retired most of my time is taken assisting local charitable and religious organizations to improve their own Internet offerings. I pay for 7mbps, lucky to get 4.6mbps and because of congestion in the evening it can get below 1mbps and even stop altogether. I hope to be included in a new entrant's offering with a full billion bits per second. Going to make my charity work ever so much easier not to mention decreasing my frustration level. The thought that some rich corporation might keep me from realizing my dream of Internet service as good as those folks in the city makes my blood boil.

Use of UNEs does not adversely affect the members of the US Telecom Association. It is after all unused resources that in a practical sense costs them money to simply sit idle. I hope the FCC heeds

the plea of the independent carriers and votes against this new ruling request. I remember the FCC taking two megs from my amatuer radio allocation in the 220mhz band. That was annoying but preventing rural users the opportunity to enjoy true broadband, high speed Internet for the greed of AT&T is an insult.

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